

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1, 3 and 23 are generic and allowable.

Regarding the Examiner's comments in the "Response to Amendment" section of the office action, Applicants have corrected all errors pointed out by the Examiner.

The following addresses the rejections under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph. In claims 7-13, 15-16, 18-19, 22, 28-33 and 36-38, line 2, "characterized in that" has been replaced by "wherein". In claim 8 line 4, "an encoding of" has been deleted, line 5 "coupled brushing or" has been added after "the", and line 6 "in particular" has been deleted. Claim 10 now depends from claim 3 rather than claim 1, and the problem in line 5 has been addressed. In claim 11, line 4, "handle" has been replaced by "coupling", and in line 7 "for example, a switch" has been deleted. In claim 12, line 3, Applicants have amended the language to clarify this portion of the claim. Claim 13 has been cancelled.

Claims 15-16 and 18-19 have been amended to depend from claim 3 rather than claim 1, "coupled brushing or" has been added in line 4 after "the", and "attached, particularly the interlock canceling element (7)" has been deleted from the end of each of these 4 claims. In line 3 of claims 15-16 and 18-19 "encoding" has been replaced with signal.

Claim 22 has been amended to further clarify the aspects of this claim. In claims 28-33 and 36, line 1, "brush or" has been inserted after "The". In claim 28, line 2, "provision is made" has been deleted, line 3 has been amended to clarify the language, line 4 has been amended to add "brushing or", line 6 has been amended to delete "particularly", and line 7 has been amended to clarify the language.

In claim 29, line 2, the language has been amended to clarify the meaning. In line 3 the words "in particular" have been deleted and in line 4 the words "or the like" have been deleted. Claim 29 now depends from claim 28 rather than claim 23. In line 7 "brushing or" has been added after "of the". In line 8 "or mating abutment" has been added.

In claims 30 and 32 line 4, and claims 31 and 33 line 5, "brushing or" has been inserted after "of the". In claim 32, line 5, the last phrase of the claim has been deleted. In claim 36, line 4, "the body" has been replaced with "a body". Claim 37 has been amended to address the issues raised by the Examiner.

Regarding claim 38, Applicants have made amendments in lines 1-3 to address the issues raised by the Examiner. Applicants disagree with the Examiner's comments regarding line 5. Claim 1 does not state that the handle has the cancelling element. Claim 1 states that the interlock canceling element (7) is provided on the brushing or cleaning tool. Claim 38 calls for the brushing or cleaning tool to not have the interlock cancelling element.

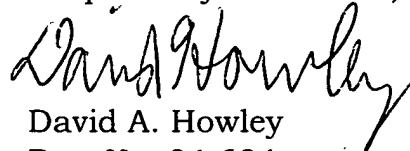
Applicants have added new claim 39 which Applicants attempted to add in the amendment of July 8, 2004.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-6, 14, 17, 20-21, 23-27 and 34-35. Applicants wish to also thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 7-13, 15-16, 18-19, 22, 28-33 and 36-38.

In view of the above amendments and arguments, Applicants believe claims 1-12 and 14-39 are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly requested.

Patent Department
The Gillette Company
Prudential Tower Building
Boston, MA 02199

Respectfully submitted,



David A. Howley
Reg. No. 34,624
Attorney for Applicants
(617) 421-7093

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE